

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 BRUSSE 05825 01 OF 02 231711Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EPAE-00 COME-00 STRE-00 STR-07
AGRE-00 AID-05 CEQ-01 CIAE-00 SOE-02 DODE-00
EB-08 EPA-04 INR-10 IO-14 L-03 NSF-02 NSC-05
NSAE-00 PM-05 USIA-15 OES-07 SS-15 SP-02 DOE-15
INT-05 PA-02 /140 W

-----105488 231738Z /43

P 231703Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5668
INFO ALL EC CAPITALS

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 BRUSSELS 05825

USEEC

PARIS FOR USOECD
PASS EPA, COMMERCE, FDA, STR

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SENV, EEC

SUBJ: EC COMMISSION REQUESTS AUTHORITY TO NEGOTIATE WITH
U.S. ON TSCA

REF: (A) BRUSSELS 4048 (B) BRUSSELS 1601

1. ON MARCH 22, THE EC COMMISSION ASKED THE EC COUNCIL
FOR AUTHORITY TO NEGOTIATE WITH THE UNITED STATES REGARD-
ING THE PROBLEMS RAISED BY THE TOXIC SUBSTANCES CONTROL
ACT (TSCA). THE EC COMMISSION HAD PREVIOUSLY INDICATED
THAT IT WOULD SEEK AN EC COUNCIL MANDATE TO PERMIT
FURTHER SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION ON TOXIC SUBSTANCES
(REFTEL B PARA 4). REFTL A CONTAINS MISSION RECOMMENDA-
TIONS ON US-EC COOPERATION ON TSCA. WE WOULD APPRECIATE
ANY INDICATION OF DIRECTION OF U.S. POLICY ON THIS MATTER
IN ORDER TO REPLY TO INQUIRIES FROM BOTH EC COMMISSION
OFFICIALS AND JOURNALISTS.

2. TEXT OF COMMISSION PRESS RELEASE FOLLOWS IN INFORMAL
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 BRUSSE 05825 01 OF 02 231711Z

UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION:

OPENING OF NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES ON THE
PROBLEMS RAISED BY THE TOXIC SUBSTANCES CONTROL ACT (TSCA)
THE COMMISSION HAS JUST RECOMMENDED TO THE COUNCIL THE
OPENING OF NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
ON THE PROBLEMS RAISED BY THE TOXIC SUBSTANCES CONTROL ACT
(TSCA) OF THE UNITED STATES.

1) WHY NEGOTIATIONS ON TSCA?

TSCA AIMS AT PROTECTING MAN AND THE ENVIRONMENT FROM THE RISKS POSED BY CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES. THE CONTROL OF THESE SUBSTANCES IS EFFECTED BY THE NOTIFICATION OF A TECHNICAL DOSSIER (INSTITUTED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (EPA) WHICH REQUIRES THAT THE PRODUCERS OF CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES PERFORM THE NECESSARY TESTS, WHICH REGULATES THE SUBSTANCES WHICH PRESENT A RISK, WHICH UNDERTAKES EVALUATION STUDIES OF THE EFFECTS OF THESE SUBSTANCES). THE IMPORTANCE OF TSCA WHICH ON ONE HAND MUST PROTECT MAN AND THE ENVIRONMENT AND ON THE OTHER MUST CONSIDER THE POSSIBLE REPERCUSSION ON COMMERCE, IS EVIDENT.

2) OBJECTIVES OF THE NEGOTIATIONS.

THE AIM OF THESE NEGOTIATIONS IS TO REACH AN AGREEMENT ON THE MODALITIES OF APPLICATION OF TSCA TO PRODUCTS PRODUCED WITHIN THE COMMUNITY. THE NEGOTIATIONS WILL BEAR ON A VARIETY OF AREAS, NOTABLY:

--THE NATURE, CONTENTS AND MUTUAL RECOGNITION OF SCIENTIFIC DOSSIERS AND METHODS TO BE USED FOR TOXIC SUBSTANCES.
--AN AGREEMENT ON THE GENERAL PHILOSOPHIES TO BE ADOPTED; RISK EVALUATION AND PRIORITY LISTING.
--AN AGREEMENT ON ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATORY AND ECONOMIC UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 BRUSSE 05825 01 OF 02 231711Z

PROCEDURES: ACCREDITATION OF LABORATORIES, RESPECT FOR CONFIDENTIALITY, COST SHARING, ETC.

--A STUDY OF THE POSSIBILITY OF EVENTUAL COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF RESEARCH.

3) COMMUNITY INITIATIVES IN THE FIELD OF TOXIC SUBSTANCES.

THE INDUSTRIALIZED STATES ARE NOW DEVELOPING PREVENTATIVE REGULATIONS TO PROTECT MAN AND THE ENVIRONMENT FROM CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES ALREADY ON THE MARKET. THE COMMUNITY IS ALSO CONCERNED WITH THIS QUESTION.

THE FIRST ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION PROGRAM OF 1973 (OJC-112, 12/20/73) IS CONCERNED WITH THE IMPROVEMENT AND HARMONIZATION OF QUALITY CONTROL TECHNIQUES, THE CARRYING OUT OF STUDIES ON TOXICITY, THE OBLIGATION TO FURNISH SAMPLES ACCOMPANIED BY A DESCRIPTION OF QUALITY CONTROL METHODS. THE COMMISSION PRESENTED TO THE COUNCIL ON SEPTEMBER 21, 1974 OJC 260, 11/5/76 A PROPOSAL FOR MODIFYING OF THE JUNE 27, 1967 DIRECTIVE CONCERNING THE "APPROXIMATION" OF MEMBER STATE LAWS RELATING TO THE CLASSIFICATION, PACKAGING AND LABELLING OF DANGEROUS SUBSTANCES.

THE 2ND ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION PROGRAM REAFFIRMS THE NEED, ON THE COMMUNITY LEVEL, TO CLOSELY CONTROL THE IMPACT OF CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES ON THE ENVIRONMENT.

IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT THE COMMUNITY, THE MEMBER STATES, REPRESENTATIVES OF THE EUROPEAN CHEMICAL INDUSTRY, THE EUROPEAN BUREAU OF THE ENVIRONMENT MET TWICE (OCT 77 AND JAN 78) WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY OF THE UNITED STATES FOR THE PURPOSES OF EXCHANGING INFORMATION ON TSCA. THESE INFORMATION MEETINGS RESULTED IN BETTER AND IN SOME CASES DEEPER

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 BRUSSE 05825 02 OF 02 231712Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EPAE-00 COME-00 STR-07 STRE-00
AGRE-00 AID-05 CEQ-01 CIAE-00 SOE-02 DODE-00
EB-08 EPA-04 INR-10 IO-14 L-03 NSF-02 NSC-05
NSAE-00 PM-05 USIA-15 OES-07 SS-15 SP-02 DOE-15
INT-05 PA-02 /140 W

-----105495 231738Z /43

P 231703Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5669
INFO ALL EC CAPITALS

UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 02 BRUSSELS 05825

UNDERSTANDING OF THE SCOPE OF TSCA. AT THE SAME TIME, A LARGE CONSENSUS WAS REACHED CONCERNING THE NECESSITY OF BEGINNING NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE U.S. AS SOON AS POSSIBLE ON THE MODALITIES OF THE APPLICATION OF TSCA TO COMMUNITY-PRODUCED PRODUCTS.

IT MUST FINALLY BE NOTED THAT THE COMMISSION INTENDS TO CONSULT WITH MEMBER STATE EXPERTS IN ORDER TO INSURE THE SUCCESS OF THE NEGOTIATIONS. END TEXT. MORRIS

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ENVIRONMENT, TOXINS & ANTITOXINS, CHEMICALS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978BRUSSE05825
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780128-0726
Format: TEL
From: BRUSSELS USEEC
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780334/aaaabcecg.tel
Line Count: 163
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 9c3f1fbf-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 BRUSSELS 4048, 78 BRUSSELS 1601
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3230223
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EC COMMISSION REQUESTS AUTHORITY TO NEGOTIATE WITH U.S. ON TSCA
TAGS: SENV, EEC, TSCA
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbsc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/9c3f1fbf-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014